

**I like short proofs and elementary proof.** Unless otherwise stated,  $\mathbb{F}$  is a field and  $V, W$  are two vector spaces over  $\mathbb{F}$ .

1. Let  $V, W$  be two vector spaces over  $\mathbb{F}$  and let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a set theoretic map. Prove that the following are equivalent:

- (a) For  $u, v \in V$  and  $c, d \in \mathbb{F}$  we have

$$T(cu + dv) = cT(u) + dT(v)$$

in  $W$ .

- (b) For  $u, v \in V$  and  $c \in \mathbb{F}$  we have

$$T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v) \quad \text{and} \quad T(cu) = cT(u)$$

in  $W$ .

- (c) For  $u, v \in V$  and  $c \in \mathbb{F}$  we have

$$T(cu + v) = cT(u) + T(v)$$

in  $W$ .

(Recall,  $T$  is said to be a linear transformation if one of (or all) the above conditions are satisfied.)

**Solution.** ((a)  $\Rightarrow$ (b)): We have  $T(cu + dv) = cT(u) + dT(v)$ . Take  $c = d = 1$ , we get  $T(u + v) = T(u) + T(v)$ . Now take  $d = 0$ , we get  $T(cu) = cT(u)$ . Therefore (b) is established.

((b)  $\Rightarrow$ (c)): Using the additive part of the hypothesis, we have  $T(cu + v) = T(cu) + T(v)$ . Using  $T(cu) = cT(u)$ , we get  $T(cu + v) = T(cu) + T(v) = cT(u) + T(v)$ . Hence, (c) is established.

((c)  $\Rightarrow$ (a)): From the hypothesis in (c), we have  $T(cu + dv) = cT(u) + T(dv)$ . Also taking  $v = 0$  we get  $T(cu) = cT(u)$  for any  $c \in \mathbb{F}$  and  $u \in V$ . So, we have

$$T(cu + dv) = cT(u) + T(dv) = cT(u) + dT(v)$$

and (a) is established.

2. Let  $V, W$  be two vector spaces over  $\mathbb{F}$ . Let  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  be a basis of  $V$  and  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n \in W$  be  $n$  elements in  $W$ . Prove that there is EXACTLY one linear transformation

$$T : V \rightarrow W$$

such that

$$T(e_1) = w_1, T(e_2) = w_2, \dots, T(e_n) = w_n.$$

3. Let  $V, W$  be two vector spaces over  $\mathbb{F}$  and let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation. Assume  $\dim(V) = n$  is finite. Prove that

$$\text{rank}(T) + \text{nullity}(T) = \dim(V).$$

4. Let  $A$  be an  $m \times n$  matrix with entries in  $\mathbb{F}$ . Prove that

$$\text{row rank}(A) = \text{column rank}(A).$$

5. Let  $V, W$  be two vector spaces over  $\mathbb{F}$  and let  $T : V \rightarrow W$  be a linear transformation. Assume that  $\dim(V) = \dim(W) = n$  is finite. Prove that the following statements are equivalent:

- (a)  $T$  is invertible.
- (b) If  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m \in V$  (here  $m \leq n$ ,) are linearly independent in  $V$  then the images  $T(e_1), T(e_2), \dots, T(e_m)$  are linearly independent in  $W$ .
- (c)  $T$  is onto.

**Solution.** ((a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b)): Suppose  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_m \in V$  are linearly independent. We will prove that  $T(e_1), T(e_2), \dots, T(e_m)$  are linearly independent. Suppose

$$c_1T(e_1) + c_2T(e_2) + \dots + c_mT(e_m) = 0$$

for some  $c_i \in \mathbb{F}$ . Since  $T$  is linear, we have  $T(c_1e_1 + \dots + c_me_m) = c_1T(e_1) + c_2T(e_2) + \dots + c_mT(e_m) = 0$ . By (a),  $T$  is invertible and hence one to one. Therefore  $c_1e_1 + \dots + c_me_m = 0$ . By linear independence of  $e_1, \dots, e_m$ , we have  $c_i = 0$ . Therefore (b) is established.

((b)  $\Rightarrow$  (c)): Suppose  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  is a basis of  $V$ . By (b),  $T(e_1), T(e_2), \dots, T(e_n)$  are linearly independent. Since  $\dim(W) = n$ , it follows that  $T(e_1), T(e_2), \dots, T(e_n)$  is a basis of  $W$ . Therefore  $T(V) =$

$$T(\text{Span}(e_1, \dots, e_n)) = \text{Span}(T(e_1), T(e_2), \dots, T(e_n)) = W.$$

Hence  $T$  is onto and (c) is established.

((c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a)): We need to show,  $T$  is one to one. We have  $\text{nullity}(T) + \text{rank}(T) = n$ . Since  $T$  is onto,  $\text{rank}(T) = n$ . Hence,  $\text{nullity}(T) = 0$ . So, null space of  $T$  is zero and  $T(v) = 0$  implies  $v = 0$ . Hence  $T$  is one to one. So, (a) is established.

6. Give the examples as follows:

- (a) Give an example of a linear operator  $T : V \rightarrow V$  such that  $T^2 = 0$  but  $T \neq 0$ .
- (b) Give two linear operator  $T, U : V \rightarrow V$  such that  $TU = 0$  but  $UT \neq 0$ .

7. Let  $V$  be a vector space and  $T : V \rightarrow V$  be a linear operator. Assume that  $\text{rank}(T) = \text{rank}(T^2)$ . Prove that

$$\text{range}(T) \cap (\text{Null Space}(T)) = \{0\}.$$

**Solution.**  $N_T$  and  $N_{T^2}$  will denote the null space of  $T$  and  $T^2$ , respectively. First, note that  $N_T \subseteq N_{T^2}$ .

Since  $\dim(N_T) + \text{rank}(T) = n = \dim(N_{T^2}) + \text{rank}(T^2)$ , we have  $\dim(N_T) = \dim(N_{T^2})$ . Therefore,  $N_T = N_{T^2}$ .

Now suppose

$$x \in \text{range}(T) \cap (\text{Null Space}(T)).$$

So,  $x = T(y)$  for some  $y \in V$ . Since  $T(x) = 0$  we have  $y \in N_{T^2} = N_T$ . Therefore  $x = T(y) = 0$  and the proof is complete.

8. Let  $V, W$  be two finite dimensional vector spaces over  $\mathbb{F}$ . Assume  $\dim V = n$  and  $\dim W = m$ . Let  $M_{m,n}$  be the set of all  $m \times n$  matrices with entries in  $\mathbb{F}$ . Let  $E = \{e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n\}$  be a basis of  $V$  and  $E' = \{\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_m\}$  be a basis of  $W$ .

(a) For a linear transformation  $T : V \rightarrow W$  define the matrix of  $T$  with respect to  $E$  and  $E'$ .

(b) Prove that the map

$$f : L(V, W) \rightarrow M_{m,n}$$

such that

$$f(T) = \text{matrix of } T \text{ with respect to } E \text{ and } E'$$

is an isomorphism.

(Try to understand the following diagram. Here  $A$  is the matrix of  $T$ .)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \xrightarrow{T} & W \\ \downarrow \text{iso} & & \downarrow \text{iso} \\ \mathbb{F}^n & \xrightarrow{A} & \mathbb{F}^m \end{array}$$

**Solution.** We will prove only (b). *Let me comment that to prove that  $f$  is 'isomorphism', there are two general methods. First method proves that the map  $f$  is one to one and onto. Alternately, you can define a map  $g$  in the opposite direction and prove that  $fg = Id$  and  $gf = Id$ . I will write a proof in using this alternative method.*

Define a map

$$g : M_{m,n} \rightarrow L(V, W)$$

as follows: For  $A \in M_{m,n}$  define  $T \in L(V, W)$  by the equation:

$$(T(e_1), \dots, T(e_n)) = (\epsilon_1, \epsilon_2, \dots, \epsilon_m)A$$

and let  $g(A) = T$ .

Note  $g$  is linear and  $gf = Id_{L(V,W)}$  and  $fg = Id_{M_{m,n}}$ . So,  $g$  is the inverse of  $f$  and the proof is complete.



9. Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  with  $\dim(V) = n$  and

$$f : L(V, V) \rightarrow M_{n,n}$$

be the above isomorphism, with respect to a (same) fixed basis  $E$ . Prove that

- (a)  $f(TU) = f(T)f(U)$ ;
- (b)  $f(Id) = I_n$ , the identity matrix;
- (c)  $T \in L(V, V)$  is an isomorphism if and only if  $f(T)$  is an invertible matrix.

**Solution.** Suppose  $e_1, e_2, \dots, e_n$  be a basis of  $V$  and  $f$  is defined with respect to this basis.

**Proof of (a):** Write  $f(T) = A \in M_{n,n}$  and  $f(U) = B \in M_{n,n}$ . Then

$$(T(e_1), \dots, T(e_n)) = (e_1, \dots, e_n)A$$

and

$$(U(e_1), \dots, U(e_n)) = (e_1, \dots, e_n)B.$$

Apply  $T$  to the second one and then use the first one. We get

$$(TU(e_1), \dots, TU(e_n)) = (T(e_1), \dots, T(e_n))B = (e_1, \dots, e_n)AB.$$

So, the matrix of  $TU$  is  $AB$ . Hence  $f(TU) = AB = f(T)f(U)$  and the proof of (a) is complete.

**Proof of (b):** We have  $(Id(e_1), \dots, Id(e_n)) = (e_1, \dots, e_n)I_n$ . Therefore  $f(Id) = I_n$ .

**Proof of (c):** ( $\Rightarrow$ ): Suppose  $T$  has a inverse  $T^{-1}$ . Then  $TT^{-1} = T^{-1}T = Id$ . Now use (a) and (b). We have

$f(TT^{-1}) = f(T^{-1}T) = f(Id) = I_n$ . By (a)  $f(T)f(T^{-1}) = f(T^{-1})f(T) = I_n$ . Therefore  $f(T^{-1})$  is the inverse of  $f(T)$ .

( $\Rightarrow$ ): Write  $f(T) = A$ . Suppose  $A$  is invertible. Let  $B$  be the inverse of  $A$ . Since  $f$  is onto,  $f(U) = B$  for some  $U \in M_{n,n}$ . So,  $f(TU) = f(T)f(U) = AB = I_n$ . Since  $f$  is one to one,  $TU = Id$ . Similarly,  $UT = Id$  and therefore,  $T$  is invertible. This completes the proof.

10. Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  with  $\dim(V) = n$ . Let  $E = \{e_1, \dots, e_n\}$  and  $E' = \{\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n\}$  be two basis of  $V$ . Let  $T \in L(V, V)$  be linear operator. Let

$$(e_1, \dots, e_n) = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)P$$

for some  $n \times n$  matrix.

- (a) Prove that  $P$  is an invertible matrix.  
 (b) Let  $A$  be the matrix of  $T$  with respect to  $E$  and  $B$  be the matrix of  $T$  with respect to  $E'$ . Prove that  $B = PAP^{-1}$ .

**Solution. Proof of (a):** There is also a matrix  $Q$  such that

$$(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n) = (e_1, \dots, e_n)Q.$$

Combining these two, we get

$$(e_1, \dots, e_n) = (e_1, \dots, e_n)QP.$$

Therefore  $QP = I_n$  and similarly,  $PQ = I_n$ . So,  $P$  is invertible.

**Proof of (b):** Apply  $T$  to the equation:

$$(e_1, \dots, e_n) = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)P.$$

We get

$$(T(e_1), \dots, T(e_n)) = (T(\epsilon_1), \dots, T(\epsilon_n))P.$$

We also have

$$(T(e_1), \dots, T(e_n)) = (e_1, \dots, e_n)A$$

and

$$(T(\epsilon_1), \dots, T(\epsilon_n)) = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)B.$$

Therefore

$$(e_1, \dots, e_n)A = (\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_n)BP = (e_1, \dots, e_n)P^{-1}BP.$$

Comparing, we get  $A = P^{-1}BP$ . This completes the proof.

11. Let  $V$  be a finite dimensional vector space over  $\mathbb{F}$  with  $\dim(V) = n$ . Let  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  be a basis of  $V$ .

(a) Define the dual basis of  $e_1, \dots, e_n$ . Also give a proof that it is indeed a basis of  $V^*$ .

(b) Let  $W \subseteq V$  be subspace of  $V$ . Define the annihilator  $W^0$  of  $W$ . Also prove that

$$\dim(W) + \dim(W^0) = n.$$

(c) For two subspaces  $W_1, W_2$  of  $V$  prove that  $W_1 = W_2$  if and only if  $W_1^0 = W_2^0$ .

(d) For two subspaces  $W_1, W_2$  of  $V$  prove that

$$(W_1 + W_2)^0 = W_1^0 \cap W_2^0$$

and

$$(W_1 \cap W_2)^0 = W_1^0 + W_2^0.$$